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Contact Information

The Nevada Department of Education selected Measured Progress to be the testing contractor for the administration of the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) in reading, mathematics, and science. Program management staff with the Department of Education, and at Measured Progress, are listed below to provide assistance.

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Additional Materials

Test Coordinator and Test Administration Manuals for:

The 98 Series HSPE Retest

The HSPE for Grade 10

The 94 Series HSPE

State Testing Requirement

According to Nevada State Law, **all high school students who attend a public school must pass the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) in reading and mathematics to earn a standard high school diploma.** Beginning with the graduation class of 2010, students will be required to pass the HSPE in science. This is a requirement of all students including those students who are in charter schools, are of limited English proficiency, or are enrolled in special education programs. There are no exceptions. The personnel at the school district or school must notify both students and parents of this requirement. Specific language in support of this testing requirement for high school graduation can be found in the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 389.015) and the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC 389.011-389.655).

Tests and Time Required for Testing

The HSPE in reading, mathematics, and science are aligned with the Nevada State Content Standards. A description of each of these tests and their respective passing and proficiency scores considered proficient is provided below.

- **1998 Series High School Proficiency Examination in Reading:** Students read literary, informational, and functional text and answer multiple choice questions based on the 2001 Nevada State Reading Content Standards. Reading questions focus on word analysis skills, comprehension, and interpretation of these texts at varying levels of cognitive demand.

Score Ranges for 98 Series HSPE in Reading

Non-Proficient	Proficient
100-250	251-500

Passing Score: 251

- **1998 Series High School Proficiency Examination in Mathematics:** Students answer multiple-choice questions based on the 2001 Nevada State Math Content Standards. Mathematics questions focus on numbers and operations, algebra and functions, measurement and geometry, and data analysis, probability and statistics.

Score Ranges for 98 Series HSPE in Mathematics

Non-Proficient	Proficient
100-289	290-500

Passing Score: See Below

Senate Bill 1, passed by the 19th Special Session of the Nevada Legislature in 2003, lowered the passing score on the mathematics test from 304 to 290 for the graduating class of 2003. The Nevada Department of Education was required to adjust the passing score accordingly, and then incrementally raise the score to at least 304 effective for the graduating class of 2007. Consequently, the score a student must attain on the math test is determined by

the year in which the student entered the 9th grade. The chart below lists the passing score for each 9th grade class affected by this legislation.

Incremental Adjustment to the HSPE in Mathematics Passing Score

School Year when the Student entered 9 th Grade	Original Anticipated Graduation Class	Passing Score
1999-2000	2003	290
2000-2001	2004	293
2001-2002	2005	296
2002-2003	2006	300
2003-2004	2007	304
2004-2005	2008	304
2005-2006	2009	304

- **1994 Series HSPE in Reading and Mathematics:** Students who entered the 9th grade prior to 1999-2000 school year must take the 1994 series HSPE tests. These tests are based on the 1994 Nevada State Content Standards. **Passing Score: Reading 71; Mathematics 64**
- **2005 Series High School Proficiency Examination in Science:** Students will answer approximately 35 multiple-choice field test questions based on the 2005 Nevada State Science Content Standards. Science questions focus on physical science, life science, earth and environmental science, and the nature of science.

More information about these tests can be found in the *High School Proficiency Review Guide* under State Assessments on the Nevada Department of Education's website (<http://www.doe.nv.gov>).

Test Administrators and/or classroom proctors are to allow the following suggested amount of time for testing.

- 10-15 minutes for the instructions prior to each test.
- 90 minutes for students to complete both sections of the reading test, and 90 minutes for students to complete the mathematics test.
- Additional time **must** be given to students who are working productively on the test at the end of the scheduled testing time period.

Students Who Test and When

The Nevada State Board of Education adopted regulations that define a student's eligibility to take the HSPE in reading, mathematics, and, science. Specific testing weeks for administration of the HSPE during the 2005-2006 school year are established by the Nevada Department of Education. These regulations and testing weeks are provided in the table below.

Administration of Nevada High School Proficiency Examinations to students NOT eligible to take them constitutes an unauthorized disclosure of test content and is specifically prohibited by state law. (NRS 389.015)

Grade Level	Eligibility Requirement	HSPE Tests	When Administered
10	At least 5 completed units of credit	Reading Mathematics Science (field test)	March 27 th – 31 st
11	At least 11 completed units of credit	Reading Mathematics	March 27 th – 31 st
12¹	At least 17 completed units of credit	Reading Mathematics	October 31 st – November 4 th February 6 th – 10 th March 27 th – 31 st May 15 th – 19 th July 10 th – 14 th
Adult	Students who have enrolled in an adult high school diploma program	Reading Mathematics	October 31 st – November 4 th February 6 th – 10 th March 27 th – 31 st May 15 th – 19 th July 10 th – 14 th

¹A student who has not yet earned the required number of credits during the junior year to qualify as a senior, and who begins the senior year credit-deficient but who has an academic plan which projects that he/she will graduate from high school within 2 semesters and by his/her regularly scheduled graduation date may submit a written request to the District Superintendent to take the exams under the 12th grade schedule.

As indicated in the table above, students who are enrolled in grade 10 and have completed at least five credits, take the 1998 Series HSPE in reading and mathematics, and the HSPE in science, during the week of March 27th-31st. Students enrolled in grades 11, 12, or an adult program, and have yet to achieve a passing score on either the reading or mathematics tests will participate during the testing windows as indicated.

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act requires schools to make adequate yearly progress, including meeting a 95% participation rate of those students enrolled in the grade level designated for the first administration of the state-mandated test. These are students enrolled in grade 10 and who take the HSPE in reading and mathematics during the testing week of March 27th-31st. Students who participate in the HSPE test administrations in reading and mathematics through March (or April) administration of their junior year will be counted toward the 95% participation rate.

The calculation for the participation rate requires that schools submit an answer document for every student enrolled in grade 10 and eligible to take the HSPE whether the student takes the tests or not. If a student is absent or does not test for any other reason, the answer document must be coded accordingly. Schools must also submit an answer document

for any grade 11 student new to Nevada whether the student takes the tests or not during the first administration in which the student is eligible.

Schools must schedule the HSPE in all three content areas to be given to students enrolled in grade 10 on Monday through Friday of the testing week. A separate day for each test is permissible. Thursday or Friday of the testing week can be designated as a make-up day. To reduce the risk for one student to assist another, the schools must also mandate that all students take the test on the same day. Use of classrooms for testing is recommended with at least one test administrator and one proctor for every 30 students.

Schools must also schedule the HSPE Retest in reading and mathematics, to be given to students enrolled in grades 11, 12, and adult programs, Monday through Friday, except Wednesday, of the testing week.

Need for Remedial Study

Nevada State Law requires that when a student does not achieve a passing score on the HSPE after a second attempt and prior to completion of grade 11, appropriate remedial study for the student must be provided. The student is not to graduate until he/she achieves a passing score on all portions of the HSPE. State law also requires that a student who needs to take one or more tests as an adult must furnish the district or state institution administering the examination evidence of completion of appropriate remedial study. This remedial study must have been completed since the last attempt at the test. Specific language about remedial study can be found in the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 389.015).

Test Materials

School or school district personnel are to order test materials for the 1998 Series HSPE in reading and mathematics and 2005 Series HSPE in science and 1998 Series HSPE Retest in reading and mathematics from Measured Progress.

A test materials order for students enrolled in grade 10 is based on student enrollment figures taken from the student information system and provided to Measured Progress by the Nevada Department of Education. School or school district personnel must verify the student enrollment figures and student demographic information to ensure that pre-id labels that are to be placed on answer documents are correct.

The test materials order for students enrolled in grades 11, 12, or adult programs and who take the HSPE Retest during any of the testing windows is based on a count provided to Measured Progress by the school or school district personnel.

School or school district personnel are to order test materials for the **1994 Series HSPE** in reading and mathematics from the Nevada Department of Education.